

TO: Mayor and Board of Trustees
FROM: Village Administrator Steve Stricker and Staff
SUBJECT: Regular Meeting of August 9, 2010
DATE: August 6, 2010

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Charlie Hojjat, Pleasantdale Elementary

6. ORDINANCES

A. Driveway Gate Variation (V-02-2010: 11314 79th Street)

Attached is an Ordinance approving a variation from the Zoning Ordinance to permit the construction of a driveway gate on a property with only 164 feet of street frontage (220 feet required). The subject property is located at 11314 79th Street. The Plan Commission recommended approval of the variation and, at its July 26, 2010 meeting, the Board directed staff to prepare the attached Ordinance.

It is our recommendation: that the Board approves the Ordinance.

B. Special Assessment #28 – West Babson Park Water Mains

Attached is an Ordinance approving Special Assessment #28 for the West Babson Park Water Main project.

The Special Assessment process starts with a meeting of the Board of Local Improvements to approve what is called “a first Resolution”. The first Resolution approves the need for a special assessment and determines the date of a public hearing, which was held on July 26. At the July 26 meeting of the Board of Local Improvements, the public hearing was held and subsequently a second Resolution was adopted. A copy of the Resolution is attached along with an Ordinance establishing Special Assessment #28. Upon approval by the Board, our attorneys will then submit this Ordinance to the Circuit Court for approval and the “spread of the roll.” If all goes as expected, this process usually takes 45-60 days. Once the Court approves the Special Assessment, the Board will be able to award a contract for the project, which will occur either at the October 11 or October 25 Board meeting. Prior to the award of contract, our Finance Department will secure necessary financing for this project through a local bank to allow residents to pay for this project over a ten-year period, with interest.

The engineer’s estimate for this project is in the amount of \$265,615, which includes an accrued interest reserve, as well as a reserve for the cost of legal fees associated with making, levying and collecting the Assessment.

The Board will recall that, as part of the annexation and based upon an understanding we have with the residents on 74th Street and 75th Street who recently annexed to the Village, the Village will cap the cost of the water main project to \$8,500 per property (in addition, there will be a \$1,500 tap-on fee, due at the time the property owner taps onto the water main). There are 15 properties that are eligible to tap onto the water main. Therefore, based on the engineer's estimate, the residents' cost for this project will be \$127,500 and the Village will pay the balance in the amount of \$138,115. In addition, the Village also agreed that, if a property owner within the Assessment area decided not to tap onto the water main immediately, the Village would pay their Assessment, with the understanding that there would be a recapture agreement, with interest, for those properties that decide not to tap on at this time.

The Village's cost will be reduced if the two vacant lots on 74th Street, just east of Vine Street, are ever determined to be buildable. These lots were not included in the assessment area due to stormwater concerns. In addition, there are three vacant lots on 74th Street currently not in the Village, but soon will be forced annexed. A recapture agreement will be prepared for all of these lots after the project is complete.

It is our recommendation: that the Ordinance be approved.

C. Deadline for C.O. (Soaring Eagle Academy – 8320 Madison Street)

Attached is an Ordinance amending a special use Ordinance for Soaring Eagle Academy at 8320 Madison Street. Soaring Eagle is a school for developmentally disabled persons. Special use approval was granted on August 10, 2009 and included a condition requiring issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy within six months. The attached Ordinance extends the six month deadline to February, 2011 (six months from the approval of the Ordinance).

The petitioner was prepared to open the school for the 2009 – 2010 school year, but was held up by lease negotiations. At this time, they are prepared to move forward with the school and anticipate having a final lease signed by October, 2010.

The purpose of a CO deadline for a special use is to ensure that if the special use is abandoned and the business never opens, that similar but different businesses do not take advantage of the special use in the future. In this case, it is the same business and the conditions and circumstances surrounding the special use are unchanged.

It is our recommendation: that the Board approves the Ordinance.

7. RESOLUTIONS

A. Long-Term Pension Sustainability

At the July 26, 2010 meeting, the Board of Trustees directed staff to prepare a resolution in support of the Metropolitan Mayor's Caucus

initiative to place a referendum on the November ballot in support of a public safety pension reform advisory referendum on the ballot for the upcoming general election in November.

The referendum question in the model resolution is very similar to the one that the Village of Barrington and the City of Lake Forest had on their ballots this past spring. The main difference is that the question was updated to reflect the action the General Assembly took this past spring in adopting pension reform for all pension systems in the state, except those affecting police, fire and county sheriffs. The questions passed in Barrington and Lake Forest, with 87% and 92% of the vote respectively.

The Mayors Caucus will work with the Pension Fairness Coalition to provide written materials and suggestions for public meetings to help educate voters regarding the issue of why public safety pension reform is needed. Pension Fairness for Illinois communities is a coalition aimed at bringing fairness to the public safety pension system in order to relieve the burden of escalating public safety pension costs on local taxpayers and ensure sustainable retirement benefits for public safety employees. The Pension Fairness Coalition legislative platform proposes five steps that would relieve taxpayer burden and enable communities to provide their public safety employees with secure and reliable retirements:

- Enrollment of all new public safety personnel in a modified pension system. This would bring public employee benefits more in line with the private sector.
- Realignment of public safety employee pension contributions so that they are parallel with the level of benefits received. In a stable and modern pension system, employees and employers would contribute equally toward pension costs.
- Consolidation of the public safety pension system into one statewide fund to minimize operational costs and provide opportunities for improved investment returns. The proposed legislation calls for this item to be completely studied to ensure any potential issues are resolved prior to implementation.
- Adoption of a 30-year rolling amortization period for the full funding of pensions. This is a more stable funding methodology than the arbitrary fixed 2033 deadline currently in place.
- Require a super majority in order to improve benefit enhancements in the General Assembly to curtail ongoing pension enhancements.

It is our recommendation: that the Resolution be approved.

8. CONSIDERATIONS

A. Approval of Vendor List

Enclosed is the Vendor List in the amount of \$167,761.46 for all funds, plus \$181,372.67 for payroll, for a grand total of \$349,134.13. The Vendor List includes the following special amounts:

- \$15,356.61 – HDR Engineering for Madison Street intersection improvement engineering

It is our recommendation: that the Vendor List be approved.